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AIRGRAM

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A-431

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : USCINCSO FOR POLAD, DOD, Amembassies MANAGUA, SAN JOSE, SAN SALVADOR, TEGUCIGALPA

FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report

REF :

REVIEWED BY

DATE: 1 - 1968

DATE: June 1968

RDS or XDS EXT. DATE

REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED/RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. The week produced no major incidents affecting internal security but miscellaneous acts of violence continued. The insurgents were the probable authors of at least 2 of them: the hijacking of some \$6,000 worth of canned food and clothing by a submachine gun-armed band of youths near El Rancho, in the Department of El Progreso, and the unsuccessful bombing attempt of the MLN headquarters in Zone 1. Other unexplained but possibly politically inspired violence included an attempt on the life of a National Policeman by 2 youths in the capital who made an unprovoked attack on him with .45's in Zone 3, and the discovery near Olopa, in the Department of Chiquimula, of the assassinated body of a person who had been kidnapped previously from his home nearby.
2. Despite the fact that the security forces have maintained a check on their clandestine elements, four guerrillas apparently found Guatemala too hot for them. Two--José Luis TURCIOS Lima, brother of the dead guerrilla leader, and a man identified only as Mario Tobias, which is believed to be an alias--were granted asylum in the Mexican Embassy. Tobias, who had a bullet wound when he arrived at the Embassy, was taken to a private hospital for treatment, still under Mexican protection. Two other guerrillas crossed the Suchiate River into Mexico itself, according to Mexican press reports, and requested asylum there. They were identified as Oscar Arturo PEREZ Ramirez (a FAR member) and Ariel GONZALEZ Sanabria, brother of Lido Haroldo GONZALEZ S. who was killed by GOG security forces in October 1967.
3. The security forces continued their campaign against Los Lobos (non-political bandit gang) on the South Coast. At least 7 were reported

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Clearances:

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Guatemala A- 431

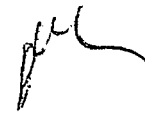
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killed in two separate actions on a mountain called Santa Odilia near Nueva Concepcion, in the Department of Escuintla, and at least 7 more, one described as a "chief," were captured in Nueva Concepcion itself. Another two supposed "chiefs" who had presumably fled to the capital were captured there. According to police officials, several of those captured have confessed to a number of crimes, including 12 assassinations, and have given police new leads as to the identity of other leaders. The head of the Judicial Police, Captain NUILA Hub claims that the recent actions have just about routed the band but says the campaign will be pursued until the area is completely cleaned up. According to press reports, the Judicial Police believe the Lobos gang was organized and trained by members of a leftist clandestine organization but that the Lobos then split away and began to operate for their own account.

4. Captain Nuila told the press that Judicial Police would also be assigned to other areas of the country where widespread, organized violence has been reported. For example, there have been several recent reports of one or more submachine gun-armed bands operating in the Department of Jutiapa.

5. Not all Judiciales are to go into the field, however. It was announced that the ex-No. Two man, Gregorio MORALES Flores, has another assignment. He is to go as Consul to Puerto Cortez, Honduras, where--he says--he will strive to increase tourism to Guatemala.

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